## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 //093 W

-----048989 141100Z/23

R 140910Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2253
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, NI
SUBJECT: FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF ILO CONVENTION

1. THE //SUNDAY TIMES// OF JULY 10, 1977, REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF UNNAMED NIGERIANS HAD LODGED A STRONG PROTEST AGAINST THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT WITH WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (WFTU) ACCUSING THE FMG OF VIOLATING THE 1948 ILO CONVENTION DEALING WITH THE FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND PROTECTION OF RIGHTS TO ORGANIZE. REPORTEDLY THE WFTU HAS SENT A PROTEST TO THE FMG CHARGING THAT IT HAD VIOLATED THE ILO CONVENTION SINCE THE FMG HAD REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE EXECUTIVE

OMMITTEE ELECTED BY THE NIGERIAN LABOR

CONGRESS AT ITS INAUGURAL CONVENTION AND HAD BANNED ELEVEN UNION LEADERS.

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- 2. IN APRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE, MR. M.O. KING, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE BANNED NIGERIAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS, SAID THAT A DIPLOMAT OF THE USSR EMBASSY HERE "IS HELPING US ON THIS MATTER."
- 3. MR. G. FOGAM, DIRECTOR OF THE ILO AREA OFFICE IN LAGOS, TOLD AN EMBASSY EMPLOYEE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE WFTU PROTEST AND

HAD FORWARDED IT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR, BUT HAD NOT RECEIVED A REPLY. FOGAM ALSO SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW THE FMG HAD VIOLATED THE ILO CONVENTION AND THAT THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS HAD EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE FMG'S ACTIONS. FOGAM ADDED THAT HE HAD ADVISED THE FMG AGAINST BANNING THE ELEVEN TRADE UNION LEADERS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE SEE LITTLE REASON TO EXPECT ANY CHANGE IN THE FMG'S STAND RESULTING FROM THE WFTU'S PROTEST. EASUM

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: LABOR AGREEMENTS, ALLEGATIONS

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